## **CLAIM Amendments**

- 1 (previously presented) A method of producing an essentially pure population of astrocytes, the method comprising
- a) preparing a mixture of astrocytes and microglial cells by dissociation of tissue obtained by surgical resection from a patient, and introducing the prepared mixture of astrocytes and microglial cells to a culture vessel,
- b) incubating the prepared mixture of astrocytes and microglial cells from step a) under conditions enabling attachment of the astrocytes to the culture vessel, and
- c) removing cells which have not attached to the culture vessel at a time of about 48 hours from the introduction of the prepared mixture of astrocytes and microglial cells to the culture vessel.
- (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the astrocytes are human astrocytes.
- 3.(original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the human astrocytes are human adult astrocytes.
- 4.(original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said essentially pure population of astrocytes is essentially free of microglial cells.
- 5.(canceled)
- 6.(original) The method according to claim 1, wherein unattached cells are removed from the culture vessel by a change of culture media.
- 7.(original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step d) of introducing a nucleic acid into the astrocytes.
- 8.(original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid is introduced into the astrocytes with a viral vector.
- 9 (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the viral vector is selected from the group consisting of adenovirus, Herpes virus, AAV, retrovirus and vaccinia virus.

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- 10.(original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the viral vector is a replication defective adenoviral vector.
- 11.(original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid is introduced into the astrocytes by calcium-phosphate precipitation, liposome-mediated transfection, cationic lipid transfection, or lipopolyamine-mediated transfection.
- 12.(original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a neuroactive substance.
- 13.(original) An essentially pure population of astrocytes produced by the method according to claim 1.
- 14 32.(canceled).